



Council Meeting Minutes

February 21, 2017

6:00 PM

Attendees

Council Members Present: Brent Cottrell, Lynn Minden, Jeff Lorenz, Barbara Sappenfield, Shannon Fenner, Jeremy Wiese, Sue Bentley

Others Present: Pastor Alan Fox, Roy Brockmeier, Kara Farrow, Sharon Russ, Pastor Alvaro

Absent: Lee Allen, Gary Sims

Opening

Opening devotion was offered by Lynn Minden. The meeting was called to order at 6:25 p.m. on Tuesday, February 21, 2017, by Lynn Minden.

Approval of Agenda/Minutes

The minutes of the January 2017 meeting were unanimously approved. The agenda for the February 21, 2017 meeting was unanimously approved.

Ministry Teams

Property

- General maintenance has been continuing.
- The church is getting a commercial coffee machine. Required some additional electrical wiring to get it working.
- Kitchen committee team met to discuss wish list ahead of starting a fundraising campaign.
- Committee is looking for someone who can put together some CAD drawings of the plans.

• J Lorenz/R Brockmeier

Administration

- 2016 closed out successfully.
- R Brockmeier

Stewardship

- No report.
- Pastor Fox

Outreach

- Pancake breakfast on Sunday the 26th to kick off new Lent small groups.
- Working with the Missions team on Day of Service activities for

months with 5 Sundays.

- S Fenner

Worship

- Conversations between Tim and Vicky for Easter plans are ongoing.
- 8:30 and 11:00 will be traditional and 9:15 will be contemporary and 5:00pm for Comunidad de Esperanza.
- Considering setting a goal of 850 for Easter Sunday.
- Also considering Easter Vigil on Saturday at 7:30
 - Pastor Fox/K Farrow

Missions

- Mission of the month for February is transportation.
- Mission of the month for March is Family Promise.
- Chili cookoff raised \$1700 for Coffee Bunker.
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Hospitality

- Dee is working on Lent soup schedule.
 - K Farrow

Care

- Care provided to 32 households by 9 care team members and 4 staff.
- Started 2 community worship services with communion at local retirement communities.
- Sharon had a celebration of life seminar that was very well attended.
 - B Sappenfield

Old Business

Comunidad de Esperanza

- Will start using our facility during Lent (Ash Wednesday).
- Last service at First Lutheran will be February 26.
- Pastor Alvarro has selected office space on the 2nd floor.
- Pastors Fox and Alvarro have started discussions about how to introduce the congregations to one another. Looking at possibility of bringing congregations together for a portion of the service on Ash Wednesday (perhaps during the imposition of the ashes).
 - Pastor Fox/Pastor Alvarro

Constitution/Bylaws

- Roy will email updated documents to the Council.
- Council must agree that the document represents us then submit to the Synod for approval. Council will then make necessary changes, approve it, and submit to congregation in August ahead of January congregational meeting.
- Lynn and Roy will meet to go through the bylaws to update and submit to Council for review.
 - R Brockmeier

ACTION

- Hosted the Tulsa-wide ACTION training February 10.
- It was a good, vigorous training with lots of good feedback from attendees.
- Fellowship has formed a core team that will meet Thursday to talk

about next steps.

- Comunidad de Esperanza already participates in a community organizing committee at All Souls Unitarian Church that includes about 15 churches. Will look to meet with ACTION participants in the future.
- We joined as the Lutheran churches in Tulsa and are looking to get other churches involved.

• K Farrow

Family Promise

- No report.

• K Farrow

New Business

Congregational Meeting Debrief

- Meeting was well attended.
- Minutes were unanimously approved.

• L Minden

Open Ministry Team Leadership

- Stewardship and Hospitality team leads are currently vacant.
- Lynn requested Council members to consider recommendations for members to fill these roles and all consider ourselves an ongoing nominating committee with an eye toward encouraging volunteers.

• L Minden

Council Liaisons to Ministry Teams

- Pastor explained to Jeremy and Sue how ministry teams are structured with a ministry team lead, Council liaison, and staff liaison.
- Jeremy volunteered to serve Stewardship.
- Sue will serve in Hospitality and may consider moving to Care when Barbara relocates in April.
- Brent will take Worship.

• L Minden/Pastor Fox

Classical Conversations Lease

- Homeschool group that meets at church on Fridays.
- ACTION and Family Promise will be using our facilities more frequently as well as other small group opportunities.
- There are also times when the group has been a little rough on the building.
- We had hoped when we agreed to this arrangement we might see some membership growth from it, but that hasn't come to fruition.
- We must give them 60 days written notice by mail if we want to discontinue the contract.
- Roy recommends that we consider discontinuing their lease.
- Council voted unanimously to discontinue the Classical Conversations lease.

• R Brockmeier

Congregational Vitality Review

- Part of the parochial report that we conduct each year for the Synod (Attachment B). Intended to give us an understanding of how people feel around the church.
- Churches often get stuck in old paradigms (see Attachment C).
- The church needs to spend more time evaluating what we want our vitality to be and how to shift our paradigms to achieve that.
- Lynn suggested that council liaisons start submitting written reports to Shannon ahead of the meeting and spend time talking about these vitality issues instead.
- Sue suggested we think about the Congregational Vitality Review document this month and come to the March meeting with thoughts about how to make a review of these issues a part of the Council's job.
 - R Brockmeier

Sharon Russ Sabbatical

- Sharon expressed appreciation for the opportunity for sabbatical.
- Two goals –
 - Spiritual formation (personal and as a spiritual director).
 - Two week independent study on care.
- Tied goals to strategic plan.
- Pastor and Sharon have been working on a plan for covering Sharon's responsibilities in her absence. Sharon is talking to care volunteers about taking on a bigger role this summer.
- Kara's summer educational requirements include a pastoral care component, so it will tie in well for her to cover hospital visits.
- Sabbatical plan unanimously approved.
 - S Russ

Treasurer's Report

January		Year to Date	
Income:	\$98,577	Income:	\$98,577
Expenses:	71,218	Expenses:	71,218
Net:	27,359	Net:	27,359

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned. The next general meeting will be on March 21 at 6:00pm. Meal and devotion for February meeting will be provided by Lee Allen.

Minutes submitted by S Fenner